



County of San Luis Obispo, California

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: County Parks, Curtis Black

SUBJECT: Advise Staff as to whether to continue to allow Alcoholic Beverage consumption in all or portions of Los Osos Park.

DATE: December 12, 2013

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission review this report, consider public input and provide recommendation(s) to County Park staff regarding potentially altering current alcoholic beverage consumption rules for Los Osos Park.

Discussion:

Over the previous few years, staff has received 3 – 5 calls per year expressing concern regarding individuals that consume alcoholic beverages at the picnic tables throughout the day in Los Osos Park. Please see Attachment 1, Los Osos Park Site Map and day use information. Concerns included that the individuals were not very clean, items burned in the BBQ pits created smoke for neighbors and that visitors didn't feel comfortable using Park restrooms and facilities.

In follow up of these concerns, staff has seen a varied mix of both good and bad behavior at this park. Negative activities include public drunkenness and sleeping in the park during hours of closure (10:00 pm – 6:00 am) and other violations of SLO County Ordinance Chapter 11.04. Staff did not see evidence of any unusual items being burned in the BBQ pits. In response to visitor and neighbor concerns, staff developed several options for administrative actions including:

1. Post and enforce no "Alcoholic Beverages Allowed" throughout Los Osos Park;
2. Post and enforce "Alcoholic Beverages Allowed by Permit Only" in certain areas of the Park; and,
3. Continue to allow alcoholic beverage consumption as allowed in all other County Parks and Facilities.

Staff attended the October 24, 2013 meeting of the Los Osos Community Advisory Council (LOCAC) and presented this topic to the public and Council Members. Following a good deal of discussion and conversation the LOCAC unanimously advised staff to keep the Alcoholic Beverages rules as-is (number 3 above).

Other Agency Involvement:

Los Osos Community Advisory Council reviewed a report on this topic on October 24, 2013 and advised staff to make no changes to the alcoholic beverage rules for Los Osos Park.

Financial Considerations:

There is would likely be a negative impact to County Parks' revenues if no alcoholic beverages were allowed at Los Osos Park or if special permits were required for such use. Those who wish to include alcoholic beverages in their group picnic use would likely not place reservations for this park.

Attachments:

Attachment 1. Los Osos Park Site Map and Day Use Information